

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

105th Congress
2nd Session

Vote No. 307

October 8, 1998, 11:04 a.m.
Page S-11847 Temp. Record

VA-HUD APPROPRIATIONS/Conference, Passage

SUBJECT: Conference report to accompany the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1999 . . . H.R. 4194. Agreeing to the report.

ACTION: CONFERENCE REPORT AGREED TO, 96-1

SYNOPSIS: The conference report to accompany H.R. 4194, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1999, will provide a net of \$93.391 billion in new budget authority, which is \$3.399 billion more than last year. Funds will not be expended on the Kyoto Protocol unless it is ratified, and the Environmental Protection Agency will be required to report on how it would implement the treaty if ratified. Details are provided below.

- Department of Veterans Affairs, \$42.588 billion, including \$17.276 for veterans medical care (\$276 million more than requested by President Clinton).
- Housing and Urban Development, \$26 billion, including: \$9.600 billion for renewing expiring section 8 housing contracts; \$4.750 for Community Development Block Grants; \$310 million for Drug Elimination Grants; and \$1.600 billion for the HOME Investment Partnership Program.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), \$13.665 billion, including full funding for the Space Station Program (\$2.270 billion; see vote No. 185 for related debate).
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), \$7.650 billion, including \$1.5 billion for Superfund.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), \$827 million, including \$307.7 million for disaster relief.
- National Science Foundation, \$3.672 billion.
- Corporation for National and Community Service (AmeriCorps), \$425.5 million.
- Other provisions include: individuals convicted of manufacturing or producing methamphetamine will not be eligible for

(See other side)

YEAS (96)				NAYS (1)		NOT VOTING (3)	
Republican (53 or 98%)		Democrats (43 or 100%)		Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (1)	Democrats (2)
Abraham	Hutchinson	Akaka	Kennedy	Kyl		Helms- ²	Glenn- ² Hollings- ²
Allard	Hutchison	Baucus	Kerrey				
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Biden	Kerry				
Bennett	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kohl				
Bond	Kempthorne	Boxer	Landrieu				
Brownback	Lott	Breaux	Lautenberg				
Burns	Lugar	Bryan	Leahy				
Campbell	Mack	Bumpers	Levin				
Chafee	McCain	Byrd	Lieberman				
Coats	McConnell	Cleland	Mikulski				
Cochran	Murkowski	Conrad	Moseley-Braun				
Collins	Nickles	Daschle	Moynihan				
Coverdell	Roberts	Dodd	Murray				
Craig	Roth	Dorgan	Reed				
D'Amato	Santorum	Durbin	Reid				
DeWine	Sessions	Feingold	Robb				
Domenici	Shelby	Feinstein	Rockefeller				
Enzi	Smith, Bob	Ford	Sarbanes				
Faircloth	Smith, Gordon	Graham	Torricelli				
Frist	Snowe	Harkin	Wellstone				
Gorton	Specter	Inouye	Wyden				
Gramm	Stevens	Johnson					
Grams	Thomas						
Grassley	Thompson						
Gregg	Thurmond						
Hagel	Warner						
Hatch							

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

section 8 housing; NASA will indemnify the development of the X-33 and X-34, which are experimental unmanned space capsules; funds from this Act will not be used to carry out Executive order 13083 regarding federalism; the Department of Housing and Urban Development will be given additional flexibility to choose the most cost-effective methods of paying insurance claims and disposing of acquired notes or homes under Federal Housing Authority (FHA) single family programs; and FHA mortgage insurance will be available in some areas for homes that cost as much as \$197,000.

Those favoring passage contended:

Highlights of this conference report include: increased funding for veterans medical care; funding priorities that reflect continued efforts to revamp the Government's poorly run assisted housing programs; full funding for the Space Station; and approximately the same level of funding which was provided for last year for disaster relief (there is enough money to meet current disaster needs in the fund). As is normal in a bill of this size, there are a number of items which some Senators find controversial, but overall we are certain that a majority of our colleagues will join us in voting in favor of passage.

While favoring passage, some Senators expressed the following reservations:

This bill has approximately \$865 billion in wasteful pork barrel spending, \$116 million of which is in the Veterans Affairs section of the conference report. We oppose such earmarks. Scarce funds should be spent where they are most needed, not on pet projects in the districts of powerful Members of Congress. We support this conference report, but oppose the pork barrel spending that it contains.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to passage.

VOTE NO.
